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The Wakefield Colony

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The Wakefield Colony

A Contribution to The Local History of Kansas

By WILLIAM J. CHAPMAN, Ph. D.
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TO THE OLD SETTLERS of Wakefield and the surrounding country this narrative is dedicated in heartfelt appreciation of the interest they have taken in the author's efforts to recover the history of pioneer days.

THE MATERIAL contained in the following narrative was, for the most part, collected during the Autumn and Winter of 1905. An article on the English Settlement at Victoria, Ellis Co., from the pen of Mr. R. T. Batchelor, which appeared in the Wakefield Advertiser January 21, 1898, first suggested the idea of a history of the beginnings of Wakefield. In the year 1899 the writer corresponded with several of the older residents of the town but was not successful in getting them to record the story of pioneer days. In consequence, the plan was laid aside for three or four years. The history in its present form does not claim to be exhaustive, although every care has been taken to render it accurate.

Hosmer Hall, Hartford, Conn., Oct. 26, 1906.

The Wakefield Colony.

The English Settlement at Wakefield, Clay Co., was one of four European colonies that came out to Kansas nearly forty years ago. The following pages recount the story of its beginnings. Doubtless fuller information might be gleaned by one who had time to devote to the task. The writer has had access to the following sources of information:

I.

WRITTEN OR PRINTED SOURCES.

1. Addresses delivered by Mr. J. B. Quinby, Dr. Burt and Rev. Richard Wake, at the Old Settlers' Reunion Oct. 10, 1894. The two first-named addresses appeared in the Wakefield Advertiser Oct. 25, 1894. Rev. Mr. Wake's address was published in the same paper Nov. 8, 1894.

2. The Wakefield Herald, Vol. 1, No. 3, April, 1871. (By the courtesy of Mrs. Wm. Sparrowhawk.)

3. Miscellaneous printed matter, including a copy of the "Star of Empire" (now unfortunately lost.)

4. Three maps belonging to Mr. J. P. Marshall of the Wakefield Co-operative Association. The earliest of these is a map of the region north and northwest of Junction City. It shows the area of settlement shortly before the coming of the English colony. The other two are maps of Wakefield and vicinity. The earlier of the two was made in the year 1874 and has been invaluable in determining the location of the settlers, and in furnishing clues in the search for oral information.

5. The Plat-Book Maps. These are contained in a subscription work entitled an "Historical Plat-Book of Clay County," published by the Bird and Mickle Map Co., Chicago, Ill., 1881.

For the use of much of the printed material my especial thanks is due to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lumb of Wakefield.

Official Records: It is a matter of great regret that none of the Official Records of the Wakefield Colony have been available. In a letter addressed to the writer and dated Salt Lake City, Feb. 1, 1899, the Rev. Richard Wake says:

"The records of the 'Company' were retained by Mr. Maitland when he removed to Washington and I presume were destroyed in the great Seattle fire which consumed his property a number of years ago."

II.

ORAL INFORMATION.

Information has been gathered from all the old settlers with whom I have had the opportunity of conversing, but especially from the following persons: Messrs. William Guy, John Chapman, R. T. Batchelor, J. P. Marshall, H. S. Walter, T. C. Roscoe, E. R. Hawes, E. Eustace, T. Beldham, H. W. Budden; Mrs. William Sparrowhawk, and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lumb. For additional particulars I am indebted to Messrs. William Seal and A. R. Goffin, and also to the Rev. R. O. Mackintosh, rector of St. George's church, for his kindness in furnishing information concerning the English settlers in Union township.

I.

Republican Township Before the Coming of the English.

The earliest American settlers in this neighborhood came in the years 1856 and 1857. In April of the former year Moses, William and Jeremiah Youngkens and John King, from Somerset, Co., Pennsylvania, settled on Timber Creek, in what is now Grant township. (Mr. King died at his home near Wakefield May 22, 1906, aged 72 years.) The following year (1857) was marked by the coming of the first New England settlers, when Messrs. J. B. Quinby and W. E. Payne settled in S. E. Republican. Persons belonging to the Pennsylvania colony say that the population of Somerset Co. was of mixed origin containing both Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania Dutch elements. They believe the date of settlement to go back to the close of the colonial period. The New England settlers were colonial Americans of English descent. In the Autumn of 1857 came another group of settlers. Lorenzo Gates, John Gill and William Mall, located higher up the river where the names of Gatesville and Mall Creek commemorate them. The Mall family were natives of Baden, in South Germany. In 1858 the New England colony was reinforced by the coming of Rev. William Todd, formerly a missionary at Madura, in Southern India. The first actual settler on the site of Wakefield was James Gilbert who came in 1858.

"In the Summer of 1858 James Gilbert and family took up their residence there (i. e. the 80 south of Wakefield), he filing on it. * * They remained about two years and during that time built a larger and better house a few rods north of the present site of Wakefield, which was occupied by them in 1859, making them the first settlers actually living in what is now Wakefield. In the Spring of 1860 he very suddenly left the country and his family soon followed." (Address by J. B. Quinby Esq., Oct. 10, 1894.)

The settlers, few as they were, were much depleted by the troublous times of the Civil War.

"In 1860, there were eleven families in the Quinby neighborhood. In 1863 J. B. Quinby and Ed Kerby were the only men left there. John Butler, Lorenzo Gates and Jacob Mall were the only ones left on Mall Creek."

Henry Avery Esq., of this city, recollects having been on picket duty at Fort Riley when the news of the burning of Lawrence (Aug. 21, 1863) came to the frontier settlements.

Dr. Burt, who came to Kansas in the Spring of 1868, has thus described the area of settlement:

"In coming from Bachelor, now Milford, the first house after leaving Mr. Hopkins' this side of the river, was Mr. Quinby's log cabin, then Mr. Todd's stone house, then an old-fashioned log cabin where Mr. Payne's house now stands, then a log house in what is now Wakefield. * * The next house to the north was, I think, Harvey Ramsey's, and the next ones were in the Avery district, which seemed well on toward Clay Centre. * * There was a cabin at the river where Mr. Manual now lives, then occupied by Mr. North, of pleasant memories—we used to hunt wild turkeys from there. To the west Mr. Kerby's, also of logs, was, I think, the only house between us and Chapman Creek—we had to go half way to Junction City before finding a house."

"The first public improvement I heard of after I came was to finish school house No. 8, so it could be used as a meeting house."

"In January, 1870, there were no houses between Clay Centre and Fancy Creek, between Clay Centre and Chapman's Creek, nor between the head of Chapman's Creek and Wakefield."

II.

The Origin of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company.

The Rev. Richard Wake, to whom the first impulse toward the formation of an English colony in this neighborhood was due, came to the United States in 1854, settling at first near New York. In 1859 he removed to Illinois. Soon after the close of the Civil War he began to advocate through the English press the advantages of colonization on the western prairies. Two parties of Englishmen were in this way settled in the vicinity of Lincoln, Neb. Mr. Wake subsequently returned to Illinois and, as he tells us, did not anticipate further experience in colonization.

At least three separate factors may be traced in the formation of the "Company" that colonized Wakefield. Mr. R. H. Drew was a land agent in London, and Mr. Wake was also widely known in Great Britain through his advocacy of the prairie states as a field for immigration. At the same time, Mr. John Wormald, of Wakefield, Yorkshire, was anticipating the formation of an English settlement in northern Missouri. By what chain of circumstances these gentlemen were led to merge their respective purposes in a single plan, the writer confesses himself uninformed. Those of their number who were in England seem to have realized the advisability of enlisting the services of Mr. Wake, and, with this in view, to have opened correspondence with him. The correspondence at first took the form of a request for information concerning Government Lands in Kansas and Nebraska. How the first inquiries developed into a colonial enterprise may best be told in Mr. Wake's own words:

"Later a scheme was proposed for the purchase of a large tract of land for co-operative farming and asking my advice on the merits of the scheme generally. I discouraged the co-operative features of the plan, but was in favor of associative immigration on a plan which would give to each settler individual ownership of land and absolute control of the products of his own labor, and proposed the plan adopted later of the purchase of a large tract of land by a few who should sell it again in quantities to suit, at a slight advance over cost, to first settlers, depending upon later sales for profit on the investment. Late in June, 1869, I received a cablegram saying, 'Select 100,000 acres in Kansas for colony,' and on the 8th of July I arrived in Topeka. * * I came west to Junction City with a letter of introduction to Capt. Pierce. July 12th we took a team to view the land lying between the Republican river and Chapman Creek, taking the divide west of Junction City and following it to the head of Chapman Creek. We saw but one house between the two points. 1869 was a fruitful year. Grass in the ravines would meet above the backs of the horses, and on the high-land was knee high or more. Reaching on our return the present site of Wakefield, I thought, as I looked down the valley, I had never seen a more beautiful landscape.

"Securing the withdrawal of the land from the market, I reported to London, and in August Messrs. Wormald, Maitland, Batchelor and others arrived, Messrs. Wormald and Maitland being empowered to purchase the land if it met their approval."

The purchase of the land was ratified by Messrs. Wormald and Maitland and steps were immediately taken to organize the colony. The land that was purchased is thus described by Mr. Quinby:

"Their tract of land consisted of the odd sections in the vicinity of Wakefield, and held by the Union Pacific Railroad, from whom they purchased it." On the same subject Mr. Wake says: "Contracts were made with the Kansas Railroad Co. and the National Land Co. for 32,000 acres at a cost of

$102,000, one-fifth being paid down at the time of purchase."

The following list of the pioneers of Wakefield was furnished by Mr. R. T. Batchelor:

The pioneer party consisting of Messrs. Wormald, Maitland and others sailed from England on the Steamship Main (North German Lloyd) on Aug. 3, 1869, and arrived in New York the 13th, reaching Junction City about the 21st of the same month. The party included:

Mr. John Wormald of Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Mr. Alexander Maitland, of London, afterwards secretary of the Kansas Land & Emigration Co., and one of the directors of the colony.

Mr. Spence, the agricultural director of the proposed co-operative colony.

Mr. R. T. Batchelor, Mrs. R. T. Batchelor and two children, of Fareham, Hampshire.

Mr. Martin.

Mr. Stone (afterwards removed to Topeka.)

Mr. Fitzgibbons, the first proprietor of the "eighty" adjoining Wakefield on the S. W. known as the Allaway farm.

August the 25th, 1869, the founders of the colony were incorporated as the Kansas Land & Emigration Co., and on the day following the townsite was formally laid out. A cairn of stones was raised on the slope of Cedar Bluff and in it was deposited a parchment certifying the founding of the town and naming the parties therein concerned. The cairn stood near the present site of Dr. Hewitt's residence.

The Plat-Book makes the following statement about the beginnings of Wakefield:

"The town was laid out by the Kansas Land and Emigration Company, consisting of Richard Wake, John Wormald, Alexander Maitland, Col. Loomis, C. Wake, R. H. Drew and J. D. Bennett. The four first named of these selected the townsite of Wakefield Aug. 26, 1869. Col. Loomis named the town "Wakefield" partly in honor of the President of the Company and partly because Wakefield, England, was the former home of John Wormald, the Secretary of the Company."

Col. Loomis, who named the town, was president of the National Land Co., and like the Rev. Richard Wake, a citizen of Illinois. His connection with Wakefield was due to the fact that the English colony acquired a part of their hand from the National Land Co.

On Oct. 6th the first large party of colonists arrived, and on the 12th of the same month the stockholders of the Company met for permanent organization in the Hale House at Junction City.

The new corporation henceforth appears as "The Kansas Land and Emigration Company, incorporated Aug. 25,1869." The capital for the enterprise was furnished by Mr. John Wormald who invested a fortune of $72,000 in the Wakefield colony.

We pass now from the formation of the company to the story of the settlers whom its inducements brought out to the prairies of Kansas.

III.

The English Settlers.

The Kansas Land and Emigration Company aimed from the start to stimulate the immigration of English settlers. Popular tradition charges the advertising material employed with being highly colored and not wanting in deliberate misstatement. In his address Mr. Quinby puts the matter more dispassionately:

"To colonize their lands, their prospectuses and advertisements were circulated wholly in England, and the colonists were mostly English tradespeople from the cities, a poor class to settle up a new country." (Address Oct. 10, 1894.)

Yet in all fairness to the new comers it must be said that the hardships of pioneer life were such as neither townsman nor landsman were prepared to meet. In many instances it was precisely the experienced English farmer who proved least adapted to the new conditions. He had as much to learn and more to unlearn than the townspeople had.

Some of the earliest English settlers came out independently of the Company's plans. Foremost among these were Messrs. P. Gillies and H. S. Walter. Mr. Walter has kindly furnished the following account of his coming to Kansas:

"I met Mr. Gillies (who had been in Junction about two weeks) the day I arrived in Junction City, Aug. 11, 1869, and the next day took up land in Republican Township, on section 28, adjoining Dr. Burt."

Mr. Walter also gives some additional particulars concerning the pioneers of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company. He says:

"The pioneer party who came Aug. 21st consisted of R. Wake, J. Wormald, Spence, Miller, Maitland, George Gates and a young man named Meek, all of London, England, and also Mr. Loomis, Land Agent, of New York."

Messrs. Savage and Wooley were also in the neighborhood before the coming of the Wakefield colonists. They lived in the same district and owned claims not far from that of Mr. Walter.

The first large party of settlers came over on the steamship Nebraska, of the Guion Line, sailing from Liverpool on Sept. 15, 1869, and reaching New York on the 29th. The voyage is remembered as an exceptionally stormy one. The party came west by way of the Great Lakes, visiting Niagara Falls en route, and arrived in Junction City on Oct. 6th. The number of persons, old and young, comprised in the "Nebraska party" amounted to 77. The following list of its members was furnished me by Messrs. John Chapman and William Guy:

Mr. James Billingham (Warwickshire.)

Mr. and Mrs. Boyce.

Mr. John Farington Alsop (was the eldest son of Mr. William Alsop, one of the leaders of a subsequent party.)

Rev. Joseph Binns.

Mr. Samuel Binns.

Mr. and Mrs. Ison (from Wolverham.)

All of whom came from the West Midlands.

Mr. John Muston (Lincolnshire.)

Mr. Christopher Deere, Mr. John Deere (Buckinghamshire.)

The foregoing were from the East Midlands.

Mr. William Guy, (Sussex) A native of the parish of Ripe (1833), seven miles from Lewes; proprietor of one of our leading business houses, and my principal informant concerning the early history of Wakefield.

Mr. Abner Shrives (Sussex.)

Mr. John Chapman (Somerset), My father was a native of Montacute, in Somerset, where my grandfather (John Chapman Sr.) and great-grandfather (Zacharias Chapman) were quarry owners and stone merchants, the quarry (Ham Hill) being leased of the Duchy of Cornwall.

Mr. George Taylor (Somerset.)

Mr. T. P. Pettigrew (Hampshire.)
Mr. John Spooner and family (London.)

The foregoing all came from the south or southwest of England.

Other members of the party were:

Mr. H. H. Meade.
Mr. Edward Moore.
Mr. Poppleton and family.
Mr. Johnson.
Mr. Gwyn.
Mr. John Cole.
Mr. and Mrs. Butcher.
Mr. and Mrs. Woodward.

The party arrived in Junction City on Wednesday, Oct. 6th, and celebrated their arrival by holding a religious and social gathering at the Methodist church, corner of 8th and Jackson, on which occasion the Rev. Joseph Binns was one of the principal speakers.

During the Winter settlers came singly or by families. Mr. John Pett (from Cambridgeshire) came out as agent for Mr. Docking. He reached Junction City Dec. 6, 1869, and in the following Spring moved out on a farm southwest of Wakefield. Information concerning others who came during the Winter is not now obtainable.

Not many weeks passed before the English began to feel the hardships of pioneer life. My father, who was staying with the Rev. William Todd at Madura, had a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism. No one thought he would recover. To add to his danger, his landlady, Mrs. Todd, was at this time afflicted with a felon. Under these circumstances it became necessary to move him to another house. He was carried, at the dead of Winter, from the Todd farm to the home of Mr. William Streeter. At the Streeter homestead he lay in an unplastered upper room whose only ceiling was a roof of badly warped native lumber shingles. At night he could see the blink of the stars and in stormy weather the snow sifted in on his bed. What this must have been to one suffering with rheumatic fever can be but faintly imagined.

The dry continental climate with its fitful and violent changes of temperature proved very trying to the English Settlers. Those who were here during the first winter recall a memorable storm that occurred on the 16th of January, 1870. It was a Sunday morning, and the weather delightfully mild, when a party of nine started for the Madura School House to attend the preaching service. Messrs. Billingham and Guy, a runaway midshipman named Broome, and, if my memory serves me, a Mr. Laundy, the first proprietor of the Moutelle farm in Union Township, were in the party. While the meeting was in progress the wind veered to the north and blew at the rate of about 60 knots an hour. The temperature fell very rapidly. Mr. Todd told his hearers that he had never seen but one storm as bad, and that no one could drive a team in the face of such a hurricane. But those who had come from Wakefield resolved to make a dash for the Pioneer House. The distance to be covered was a little more than two miles. Young Broome was the first to reach the house, but he was so benumed with the cold that he could not open the door. He had to wait in the tempest till others came to his assistance.

The continual privation of pioneer life was harder to bear than its occasional sufferings. In Winter a large part of one's time must be consumed in getting wood and water. To settlers on the high prairie this often meant a journey of several miles. Besides all this, there was a serious economic drawback. The country had scarcely recovered from the effects of the Civil War and for many commodities one must still pay "war time" prices. This had much to do with the apparent failure of the colony during its earlier years.

The Spring of 1870 was marked by the coming of a second party of colonists. They were for the most part

from Montgomeryshire, in Wales, or from the adjoining English county of Shropshire. The leader of the party was Mr. William Alsop who invested very considerable capital in the settlement of Wakefield. The Alsop party sailed from Liverpool in the steamship Colorado (Guion Line) on Wednesday, the 6th of April, 1870. They set out from New York on Tuesday, the 19th, and reached Kansas City on the following Saturday. On Monday, the 25th, they were met at Junction City by the Rev. Richard Wake.

The following persons were members of the party.

Mr. William Alsop and family (Co. Montgomery) Known at Wakefield as Mr. William Alsop of Cain's Creek.

Mr. Richard Alsop and family (Co. Montgomery.)

Mr. Edward Jones and family (Co. Montgomery.)

Mr. T. C. Roscoe, of Union Township (sec. 22), my principal informant on the history of the Alsop party.

Mr. S. E. Richards, Proprietor of the Wakefield Cash Store.

Mr. William Richards, brother of the preceding.

Mr. Thomas Newell.

Mr. Thomas Woods.

Mr. Swinbourne (from Cumberland.)

Mr. William Dalton (Warwickshire.)

Mr. Farmer, subsequently a merchant in White City.

Mr. Richard Bird.

Mr. Bird, brother of the preceding.

Mr. J. W. Sampson, aftewards removed to the western part of the State, probably to Osborne County.

Mr. I. W. Thomas (from Cornwall.)

Mr. A. R. Goffin, from London, also came out on the Colorado, although he was not a member of the Alsop party.

A settler by the name of Seimew (or Siemee) came out about the same time as the aforementioned and took a claim in Union Township.

A smaller party consisting of Mr. James Eustace, Mr. and Mrs. Jardine, Miss Kynaston (an aunt of the Reed brothers), Mr. Alfred Taylor (brother of George Taylor who came out on the Nebraska), Mrs. John Chapman, her two children, Miss Jennie Taylor (with Mrs. Chapman as her companion), and a servant girl named Harriet, also came out in April, 1870. The writer has the distinction of being one of the two children before-mentioned. This party sailed on the City of Washington, one of the swiftest and best equipped vessels afloat. In New York they stayed at the Astor House and found American travel decidedly expensive. None of them had any notion of what pioneer life was like. Of course they took it for granted that America was an El Dorado.

In April, 1870, Mr. Benjamin Budden, a naturalized American, came from Illinois. He was a native of Bridport, in Dorset, but had lived in America for several years. In May of the same year two brothers named Yarroll and a young man named John Brett, from Hastings, in Sussex, came to Wakefield. They lived temporarily in a "dug-out" on the George Taylor farm southwest of Wakefield. Mr. Brett was a brother and Mr. Joseph Yarroll the first husband of Mrs. T. C. Roscoe.

The coming of the English colony greatly increased the number of voters in Clay County, as the following quotation from the Plat-Book will show:

"The number of votes cast in 1866 was 112; in 1867, 155; in 1868, 196; in 1869, 232; in 1870, 482; in 1871, 1,003; in 1872, 955; in 1873, 1,158. * * The number of votes cast in 1880 was 2,672."

In the year 1870 Kansas suffered from a severe drought. The experience of the settlers seemed in almost every respect to belie the glowing reports that had lured them to the far West. On every side they murmured against the founders of the colony as the Israelites of old did against Moses and Aaron. Mr. Wake was especially blamed. They charged him with being the author of their calamities.

Late in the year 1870 Mr. Alexander Maitland, the Secretary of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company, re-

visited Great Britain and during his absence the man whom he had left in charge of his property pillaged the house and tossed his papers and correspondence out of doors. After this high-handed proceeding the culprit fled to Missouri.

About the same time Mr. James Eustace also returned to England for the purpose of organizing another party of settlers. But in spite of the most strenuous efforts on the part of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company, the tide of immigration was checked.

IV.

The Organization of the Colony.

The Wakefield Colony was remarkable for the number and variety of its "organization." The most important of these were, The Kansas Land and Emigration Company; The Wakefield Bridge and Ferry Company; The Agricultural and Literary Society; and the Wakefield General Market Company. The Settlement also boasted a newspaper—The Wakefield Herald, printed at the Union Office in Junction City.

Much difference of opinion exists as to the original name of the Wakefield paper. My father thinks that it was called "The Star of Empire." Others are equally positive that from the beginning it was called "The Wakefield Herald." A publication called "The Star of Empire" certainly did exist, a copy having formerly been in my possession, but it may have been simply a prospectus printed and circulated in England. It was printed in newspaper form and bore the well-known motto from Bishop Berkeley, "Westward the star of empire takes its way." As regards the societies or corporations previously enumerated, the following items of information may be found in the Wakefield Herald, Vol. 1, No. 3, April, 1871:

(1) The Kansas Land and Emigration Company, incorporated Aug. 25, 1869. General Office, Wakefield, Kan.; Branch Office, Cor. 10th & Washington Strs., Junction City, Kan. Directors: John Wormald, Alexander Maitland, Richard Wake, Wakefield; Charles Wake Jr., Junction City; J. W. Bennett, John Brown, Morris, Ill.; Harry D'Oyle, London, England; R. H. Drew, Sydenham, England. Officers: R. Wake, Pres.; A. Maitland, Sec'y; J. Wormald, Treas. Agents: Charles Wake, Junction City; Robert H. Drew, 2 Gresham Bldgs., Basinghall St., London, E. C.; John Miller, 13 Godliman St., London, England.

(2) The Wakefield Ferry and Bridge Co., incorporated May 30, 1870. Pres., James Eustace; Ferryman, William Guy.

(3) The Agricultural and Literary Society. This organization was one of the most characteristic features of the colony and its proceedings occupy considerable space in the columns of the Wakefield Herald. From the issue previously cited we take the following announcement:

"Agricultural and Literary Society: Every Wednesday evening, 7 o'clock, at the Hall. Pres., J. E. Burton; V. Pres., R. Wake; Sec'y, T. P. Pettigrew; Treas., J. Eustace; Exec. Com., Alexander Maitland, W. Eustace, C. Ingram, J. B. Quinby, R. N. Cowdery."

Of the recorded proceedings of the Society we note the following:

Wakefield, Jan. 25, 1871. Poorly attended, general conversation.

Feb. 1st. Dairy Farming, Rev. R. Wake.

Feb. 8th. Tree Culture, Mr. Gray.

Feb. 14th. Economy on the Farm, Mr. T. North.

Feb. 22nd. A discussion was held on the question of building a bridge on the Republican River at Clay Centre.

"Messrs. J. W. Burton and others spoke against the proposition to issue county bonds to the amount of $25,000 to build the bridge."

"It was also stated that a bridge will be built at Wakefield for one-half the sum, which would be a greater convenience to a large part of the country than one at Clay Centre."

Mar. 1st. "Committee on Public Roads recommended the opening of roads on various section lines in the vicinity of Wakefield."

Mar. 8th. J. B. Quinby, Esq., gave an address on "Opening a Farm." In accordance with a vote of the society this address was printed in full in the April Number of the Wakefield Herald. (T. P. Pettigrew, Secretary.)

(5) The Wakefield General Market

Co. In the Spring of 1871 the establishment of a Monthly Live Stock Market was proposed by Messrs. William Alsop of Cain's Creek and John Chapman of Wakefield. The Wakefield Herald thus announces the formation of the new Company:

"We are pleased to be able to announce the opening of a Monthly Market at Wakefield for the sale of cattle and all kinds of live stock."

Organization: Pres., William Alsop; Sec'y, R. Wake; Treas., J. B. Quinby. Directors: W. Alsop, J. Chapman, E. Jones, J. B. Quinby, C. Fullington, R. Wake and A. Maitland.

At the time of the publication of the April issue of the Wakefield Herald the Market Square was being enclosed with a board fence.

CHURCHES.

While the various organizations pertaining to the Wakefield Colony are under consideration it will be fitting to give some account of the churches.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, under the pastorate of Rev. R. Wake, met in the Public Hall at Wakefield. The Building was situated near the northwest corner of the old Market Square on the west side. The first Sunday School Supt. was Mr. James Dodson, who also held the office of County Supt. of Public Instruction. He still resides at Wakefield as its oldest inhabitant.

The Union Church, with Rev. William Todd and Rev. Edward Moore as co-pastors, worshipped in School House No. 8 at Madura. The Madura church was afterward affiliated with the Congregational body, and when the new building was erected in Wakefield the name of "Madura Congregational Church" was retained.

The Episcopal church was organized some years later, its first vestry meeting having been held on Oct. 14, 1874. St. John's Church was subsequently erected on the northeast corner of the half section belonging to Mr. Charles Ingram. The church building was dedicated in the Spring of 1876.

V.

Colonists from the Upper Thames Valley.

In spite of the severe check which the stream of immigration received in the year 1870, it subsequently underwent a partial revival. The Wakefield Herald thus notices the coming of the next large party of settlers:

"We learn that James Eustace Esq., will leave England for Wakefield on the 5th of April, accompanied by a large party of English agriculturalists, whom he has prevailed upon to remove to the broad prairies of Kansas. Golden opportunities await them here." (Wakefield Herald, April, 1871.)

It was, perhaps, the business relations that existed between some of the Oxfordshire colonists and George Grand Esq., the founder of the English colony at Victoria, Ellis Co., that led Noble L. Prentis to place the beginnings of Wakefield in the year 1871. In his history of Kansas he says:

"In 1871 the Kansas Pacific sold to a Swedish colony, in Saline county, 22,000 acres; to an English colony, in Clay county, 32,000 acres, and to a Welch colony, in Riley county, 19,000 acres. In 1873 George Grant, of England, purchased of the Kansas Pacific Company 50,000 acres in the eastern portion of Ellis county, with the design of colonizing English people of means." (History of Kansas, p. 146.)

So far as the date is concerned, the historian is evidently mistaken, for at the time spoken of the English colony in Clay county had been in existence very nearly two years. The efforts made in 1871 to retrieve the fortunes of the Wakefield colony brought it more prominently before the public eye, and may, not unnaturally, have created the impression that it originated at that time.

The first party belonging to the new stream of immigration we shall term the "Sparrowhawk party," Mr. Robert Sparrowhawk being one of its leading members. The Wakefield Herald, as we have seen, states that it was conducted by James Eustace, Esq., and fixes the date of its departure from England, on April 5, 1871. Mr. Eustace, it will be remembered, came out on the "City of Washington" in 1870 and had in the meantime revisited England.

The names of the following persons belonging to the Sparrowhawk party were furnished by Mr. E. R. Hawes and Mrs. William Sparrowhawk:

Mr. and Mrs. R. Sparrowhawk and family, from Aston under Wychwood, Oxfordshire.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilbury and family; Mr. Tilbury returned to England and was afterwards a curate at Exeter.

Mr. and Mrs. Shirley and family.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Hawes; settled on the Geo. Taylor farm; are now living in Wakefield. Mr. Hawes is one of my informants concerning the party of which he was a member.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox and family.

Mr. and Mrs. James Loader and family.

Mr. Bettridge.

Mr. Herman Walter.

Mr. William Thurlow.

Mr. Richard Jones (brother of Mrs. James Loader.)

Mr. and Mrs. Arkell and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons.

Mrs. Wightman (lived just east of Tom Keller's place.)

Most of these came from Oxfordshire and adjoining counties, the streams of which flow into the Thames, and may, therefore, be described as settlers from the Upper Thames valley.

Among others who came from Oxfordshire about this time were the Clinches. Their names were Harold, Charles and Duncan Clinch. The two first named were sons, the third a nephew, of a wealthy brewer in Witney on the Windrush. Witney, so the local saying affirms, is famed for four B's—"beauty, bread, beer and blankets." During their stay at Wakefield,

Messrs. Charles and Harold Clinch engaged in sheep and cattle raising. Their father supplied them with ample capital for the enterprise—not less than 40 or 50 thousand dollars, it is said. In addition, Duncan Clinch received an allowance of $75.00 a month from his father. Frank Harris, an experienced shepherd, was commissioned to bring out some 65 or 70 pure blooded sheep of the best English breeds. The Clinches also imported several head of choice cattle and two Clydesdale stallions that subsequently took the premium at the Topeka State Fair. Although a claim was taken up in their interest, by one of the Buckles on sec. 24 in Gill township, they made their headquarters nearer Wakefield. They kept "bachelors' hall" at Chill Creek, on what is now known as the Haynes' farm, then owned by Mr. Lewinton Howse. But in spite of abundant means, the young men did not adapt themselves to pioneer life. Their domestic arrangements and housekeeping are said to have resembled those of primitive man, and many anecdotes are told of their father's disgust when he visited Wakefield.

Among other settlers from Oxfordshire were Mr. H. B. Jones, afterwards a druggist in Industry, Kan. Mr. Thomas Irons is said to have come from the same county. Messrs. Cumber and (Charles) Harris, who held claims on the south halves of sections 26 and 22, respectively, in Gill township, were also Oxfordshire people. The Buckle family, to whom reference has already been made, were from Cawbury in Wychwood (Oxfordshire), having lived on a farm that had been cleared under the disafforesting act. The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Buckle, three sons (Ted, Will and Charley) and two or three daughters, one of whom married the Rev. J. H. Young, an Episcopal clergyman. The Buckle homestead was the south ½ of the N. E. ¼ of sec. 26 in Gill township. The Rev. J. H. Young lived on the south half, on the farm now owned by my brother, Mr. Herbert Chapman.

In the meantime matters went from bad to worse at Chill Creek. The Clinch brothers ran up bills of from $100.00 to $150.00 yearly for tobacco and similar luxuries, and the ranch proved anything but a success. At length Mr. Clinch Sr., decided to come out and see things for himself. He was thoroughly incensed at his sons' slipshod ways and after satisfying himself that the enterprise would not succeed, he sold out and took his sons and nephew back to England. The flock of sheep were disposed of to George Grant, Esq., then engaged in founding the English colony at Victoria, Ellis Co. While Mr. Clinch was in Wakefield a cattle show was held, at which he presided as judge. In this capacity he awarded the prize of a silver cup (for the best bull shown) to the Gifford brothers of Hillside. Mr. Clinch had already sold out and returned to England when Mr. Edwin Eustace visited Ellis Co. in the Spring of 1874.

The events just related may be said to close the first chapter in the history of Wakefield. The colony rapidly lost its associative character. The monthly market was early discontinued, and, one by one, the remaining corporations, including the Kansas Land and Emigration Company, passed out of existence.

Several later settlers came from Shropshire, following in the course of the Alsop party. Messrs. Benjamin Adams, William Kynaston and Ralph Fowles sailed from Liverpool on April 1, 1871, and landed in New York after a nine days' voyage. The two former settled in Union township. Mrs. Adams came out in the following August. A number of colonists came to the vicinity of Wakefield under the influence of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company but without connecting themselves with the Wakefield

Colony. The Rundles and Winsors came to Junction City and took up claims in Dickinson County. Those of the Wakefield colonists, the time of whose coming is not definitely ascertained, will be noticed at greater length in the following account of the distribution and location of the Settlers.

VI.

The Distribution of the Early Settlers.

(Remark: The following notation will be employed to define the situation of farms belonging to the settlers mentioned. Fractional expressions will be used to denote the subdivisions both of sections and quarter-sections; thus, S. ½ of N. E. ¼ of sec. 26, is to to be read, the south half of the north-east quarter of section 26.)

In describing the distribution of the Wakefield colonists the writer will be guided chiefly by the second Marshall map. Many incidents of a descriptive nature, as well as many particulars concerning the settlers themselves, have been furnished by Mr. William Guy of Wakefield. The Map, to which reference has already been made, was drawn by Mr. J. P. Marshall about the year 1874. The area which it describes is bounded on the east by the line running between sections 4 and 5 (33-32) in Republican township; and on the west by the second section line in Athelstane Township. It includes, therefore, the whole of Township 10, Range 3 east (Gill Township) and parts of the Townships adjoining it on the east and west respectively. The town-site of Wakefield, lying mainly in Section 5, Township 10, Range 4 east, occupies the upper right hand corner of the map.

(a) THE AMERICAN SETTLERS.

Our survey of the district occupied by the American settlers will begin with section 8. The proprietors of the northwest quarter of this section were Messrs. Gilbert and Streeter. They were Americans and had taken up their claims before the coming of the English colonists. Mr. Ed Southwick, the owner of the S. ½ of the S. E. ¼, was the nephew of the Rev. William Todd of Madura. The occupants of the north half of the section will be mentioned in our account of the English settlers. The S. W. ¼ of Section 8 was owned by the State Agricultural College (Organized, 1863; established at Manhattan, 1873.)

On Section 17 the S. ½ was owned by Mr. J. B. Quinby and the N. E. ¼ by Mr. W. E. Payne (N. ½) and Rev. Wm. Todd (S. ½.) The Todd house is still standing and is a typical representative of the better class of pioneer dwellings. The deep-set windows, the wood-work of native walnut lumber, the rooms long and low, all characterize the dwelling as unlike anything erected since the coming of the railroad. School district No. 8, and subsequently the church organized there, derived their name from the fact of Mr. Todd's having been a missionary at Madura, in India. Mr. J. B. Quinby, who settled in Republican Township in 1857, owned the south half of section 17, and, subsequently, also the N. W. ¼ of section 20. From him Quinby Creek derives its name.

The East ½ of the S. E. ¼ of Section 20 was owned by Dr. Burt who had been an army surgeon in the Civil War. The Dr. and his wife (nee Locke) were both New England settlers. In the same neighborhood lived W. P. Gates, who, as a mere lad, had also seen military service. In his ad-

dress of Oct. 10, 1894, Dr. Burt mentions a settler named French who likewise lived in that vicinity.

In the district north of Wakefield the Avery family had taken up claims before the coming of the English colonists. The first to settle in that vicinity was Mr. Albert Avery. His brother, Mr. Henry Avery, came some time later. They were natives of Orleans Co., Vt., and were of English descent. The following account of the coming of the Avery family to this country occurs in the "Avery Family Record, Dedham Branch, 1650-1893":

"Dr. William Avery: We now take up the record of our earliest ancestors who crossed the Atlantic. He (Dr. W. Avery) in 1650 cast in his lot with the settlers of the town of Dedham, Mass., bringing with him his wife Margaret and three children from the parish of Barkham, county of Berkshire, England."

The pioneer settler in Gill township was Mr. Kirby. His claim included the S. ½ of the S. W. ¼ of section 13 and the N. ½ of the N. E. ¼ of section 24. In the year 1868 his house was the only dwelling in the township.

With regard to Athelstane township the following information is to be found in the Plat-Book (p. 21):

"The first settlers in this township were William Price and his son Martin, who came Feb. 17, 1860."

(b) THE ENGLISH SETTLERS.

(1) Settlers in Twp. 10, Range 4, East.

The townsite of Wakefield consisted of 120 acres in the N. W. ¼ of section 5, and the two "eighties" (E. ½ of N. E. ¼, sec. 6; and N. ½ of S. W. ¼ of sec. 5) adjoining it on the west and south respectively. In Sec. 6, the east ½ was owned by Mr. R. T. Batchelor, the west half by Mr. Fitzgibbons, both of whom were members of the pioneer party. When the Marshall map was drawn the Fitzgibbons homestead was owned by William Allaway. The west ½ of the N. E. ¼ adjoining the townsite of Wakefield was owned by Mr. John Chapman.

An account of my father's family has been given in connection with the list of those who came out in the steamship Nebraska in 1869. My mother was the second daughter of Mr. William Hellier of Poundsford (Pitminster), near Taunton. The Helliers had been settled for several generations at Hennock, near Bovey Tracey (Devon). Mrs. William Hellier was a daughter of Edmund Rich, Esq., of Cross House, Over-Stowey. The Riches of Stowey, Butcombe, and Bagborough were descended from "Samuel Rich, Esq., Gentleman," (Mural tablet in the parish church, Over-Stowey), who flourished in the last quarter of the seventeenth century. On the extinction of the elder branch of the family (in 1815) my maternal great-grandfather removed from Butcombe to Over-Stowey.

The west half of the section was divided into four "eighties," lying east and west. The original proprietors were Messrs. Pettigrew (N. ½ of N. W. ¼), Billingham (S. ½ of same, Geo. Taylor (N. ½ of S. W. ¼), and John Spooner (S. ½ of same), all of whom came out in the steamship Nebraska in 1869. In 1873-4 the Geo. Taylor farm was owned by Mr. E. R. Hawes who came out with the Sparrowhawk party.

Section 7, lying southwest of Wakefield, was assigned to the Directors of the colony: The N. E. ¼ to Mr. John Wormald, the N. W. ¼ to Mr. Alexander Maitland, the S. W. ¼ to Rev. Richard Wake, and the S. E. ¼ to Mr. R. H. Drew. Of the proprietors mentioned, Mr. Drew never became an actual settler, although he paid a visit to the colony in the early days and stayed with my father at his farm on section 6. In addition to the quarter section above-mentioned, Mr. Alex.

Maitland owned the "eighty" (in T. 10, R. 3 east) adjoining it on the west and also the S. ½ of the S. W. ¼ of Sec. 5 adjoining the townsite of Wakefield. He erected a dwelling house on the first-named eighty and also commenced to build a stone residence on the farm lying south of the townsite. About the year 1873-4 the Wormald quarter section appears to have changed hands. At some later time, the farm adjoining Wakefield on the south passed into the hands of Mr. Wormald and became known as the Wormald farm.

The proprietors of Sec. 18 (adjoining Sec. 7 on the south) were Messrs. Skinner, Dodson and Dibben. The N. E. ¼ of the section belonged to the State Agricultural College.

Concerning Mr. Skinner I find the following entry in the "Forty-seventh Annual Session" of the Congregational State Association:

"Edward Skinner was born in Old Dalby, Leicestershire, England, Aug. 24, 1837. He commenced preaching in England when 18 years of age. Came to America May 14, 1873. Pastor of Madura (Wakefield) and Milford churches in Kansas from 1873 to December, 1879. Church was built in Milford during his pastorate, which was the first church in Kansas built without missionary aid. * * Died at his home in Blue Rapids (Kan.) Jan. 8, 1901." (pp. 42-43.)

Mr. Skinner's homestead was the N. ½ of the N. W. ¼ of section 18. On the S. W. ¼ Mr. A. Gaston appears to have been preceded by a settler named Jacobus.

On section 19, the proprietors were Messrs. Mark Dodson, Emory White and William Gaston. All these were of American birth. The Gaston family were Scotch-Irish Pennsylvanians. The south half of section 20 was owned by the following: Messrs. Walters, Gates, Eustace and Burt. The Walters and Eustace families were English. The N. E. ¼ of section 30 was owned by Messrs. Lumb (N. ½) and Wheelright (S. ½.) They were Yorkshire people. It may deserve mention that Mr. Lumb (now residing in Wakefield) possesses a copy of the "Breeches Bible" (so-called from its curious rendering of Gn. 3:7. Mr. Lumb's Bible was printed in 1599), that has come down from the reign of Queen Elizabeth. No entries appear on sections 29 and 31; the west ½ of section 32 has been mentioned as belonging to the State Agricultural College. The proprietors of the east half of the same section were Messrs. Thurlow and Lawton. The N. ½ of the N. E. ¼ belonged to William Eustace whose homestead was on section 20. Mr. Robert Sparrowhawk came out with a large party in April, 1871, and settled on the N. E. ¼ of section 28. His former home was at Aston under Wychwood (Oxfordshire.) A curious passage in Florence of Worchester's Chronicle shows that this surname is a survival of an Anglo-Saxon proper name current in the upper Thames valley in the days of Edward the Confessor. The entry reads:

"A. D. 1050. Spearhafoc (Sparrowhawk), abbot of Abingdon, was elected bishop of London, but was ejected by King Edward before consecration."

The circumstance is remarkable because Anglo-Saxon proper names fell into complete disuse soon after the Conquest. J. T. Tait and H. S. Walters also held claims on section 28.

(2) SETTLERS IN TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 3 EAST.

We shall begin our survey of the township with the northeast corner—the point nearest Wakefield. Here, on section 1, the N. E. 1-4 belonged to Mr. T. P. Pettigrew. Forty acres of the S. E. 1-4, adjoining the Spooner farm on the west appear to have belonged to John Spooner. On section 12, there were eight proprietors. The E. 1-2 of the N. E. 1-4, adjoining his

quarter section in Republican Township belonged to Mr. Alexander Maitland. In like manner, the E. 1-2 of the S. E. 1-4 belonged to the Rev. Richard Wake. The W. 1-2 of the N. E. 1-4 was the homestead of Mr. Benj. Budden. The east and west halves of the N. W. 1-4 belonged to Messrs. Eustace and Cowdery, respectively. R. N. Cowdery came from the neighborhood of Salisbury, in Wiltshire; Mr. Eustace was from Oxfordshire. The W. 1-2 of the S. E. 1-4 belonged to Dr. Chas. Hewitt; the E. 1-2 of the S. W. 1-4 to Jason Withers; the W. 1-2 to Arthur Marshall, a brother of Mr. J. P. Marshall. There were two Withers brothers, Ralph and Jason. Jason was a son-in-law of Mr. Cowdery.

On section 13, the S. 1-2 of the S. W. 1-4 belonged to Mr. Kirby. The W. 1-2 of the N. W. 1-4 was the property of Mr. J. P. Marshall. (This claim was originally purchased by Mr. James Marshall.) Mr. Marshall, to whom we owe the map upon which this account is largely based, was a native of New Alresford, in Hampshire. On section 24, the N. W. 1-4 belonged to D. H. Dudy, an American and a veteran of the Civil War. The S. 1-2 of the N. E. 1-4 adjoining Mr. Kirby's farm, belonged to an Englishman named (Thomas) Goosey. A son of Mr. Goosey's died in Wakefield and was buried on his father's farm. On the S. 1-2 several of the names have been re-written. The entires are: S. E. 1-4, E. 1-2 Gaston; W. 1-2, T. White; S. W. 1-4, E. 1-2, (William) Ware; W. 1-2, Buckle. T. K. White was an American; William Ware, a Devonshire man. The latter had lived for many years in the United States. On the N. W. 1-4 of Sec. 25 appears the name Blatch, on the corresponding 1-4 of Sec. 36, R. Jones. Section 36 was school land.

We shall now resume our survey from the northern boundary of the township, beginning with sections 2 and 3. On the former section the N. E. 1-4 was owned by Mr. O. R. Sweezey, an American. His claim was "jumped" by an adventurer named Jack Beatty. Both names appear on the Marshall map. The E. 1-2 of the N. W. 1-4 belonged to Isaiah Jevons, a native of Staffordshire, but many years a resident in America. The W. 1-2 was owned by Mr. Lewin, but occupied by Alfred Yarrow. The S. 1-2 was divided into four eighties. The east and west halves of the S. E. 1-4 were owned by Messrs. Shrivers and Guy, respectively. Both were from the county of Sussex. Mr. William Guy, to whom the writer is more extensively indebted than to any other informant, was a native of Ripe, near Lewes, and came out on the Steamship Nebraska. In the early days of the settlement he lived on his farm on section 2. He is now proprietor of one of the leading business houses in Wakefield.

The following changes in the ownership of the S. W. 1-4 of Sec. 2 took place before the Marshall map was drawn:

The W. 1-2 was first occupied by Humphrey Hughes, afterwards by a Mr. Phillips. The E. 1-2 of the quarter section was taken up by John Cole who came out on the Nebraska. It afterwards passed into the hands of Walter Parsons, whose sister married Mr. Phillips, the proprietor of the adjoining "eighty." Both farms were eventually purchased by B. F. Jevons, son of Isaiah Jevons.

The N. 1-2 of Sec. 3 was owned by Mr. Charles Ingram, a native of Co. Dorset, England. St. John's Church (Episcopal) was built on the N. E. corner of his estate. Mr. Ingram was a member of the executive committee of the Wakefield Agricultural and Literary Society (see section 4.) He sustained serious injuries in trying to

rescue some haystacks from a prairie fire, and, shortly afterwards, returned to England and died there. Three "eighties" on the N. 1-2 of Sec. 10 were owned by members of the Titcomb family, (Mrs. Titcomb and two sons, Mark and Edwin.) They were from London. The E. 1-2 of the N. E. 1-4 belonged to John Bulmer. The S. E. 1-4 belonged to Thomas Holt and Richard Cawcutt. In 1873-4 the Holt farm was owned by Geo. Pearson. Both claims were afterwards purchased by J. K. Hammond.

On section 10, the N. W. 1-4 was occupied by Gilbert Jones, son of a chemist in Sloane Street, Chelsea. The claim was railroad land and seems later to have reverted to the Railway Company. Gilbert Jones went back to England, probably about 1874.

The W. 1-2 of the N. W. 1-4 of Sec. 14 was owned by Mr. John Muston, the E. 1-2 of the same quarter by Edward Moore. The latter was associate pastor of the Madura Union Church in the early days. They came out on the Nebraska in 1869. The Moore farm was afterwards purchased by Thomas Waller who came from the Lancashire border, not far from Staleybridge. The proprietor of the E. 1-2 of the N. E. 1-4 of Sec. 14 was James Marshall, a brother of Mr. J. P. Marshall. He married Miss Downey, a sister of Mrs. Alexander Maitland. He subsequently lived in St. Louis for about six years, and then returned to London, England. The W. 1-2 of the same quarter section was the homestead of Mr. J. P. Marshall. In a letter of recent date (Sept. 31, '06,) he says:

"My homestead was the W. 1-2 of N. E. 1-4 of Sec. 14, T. 10, R. 3, and my brother James had the E. 1-2 of the same quarter. He also bought the W. 1-2 of N. W. 1-4 of 13. When he left I bought both pieces from him."

Mr. Poppleton and his sons owned claims on the S. 1-2 of the section. The W. 1-2 of the S. W. 1-4 belonged to Edward Jones who came out with the Alsop party in 1870. Mr. Jones afterwards purchased the Batchelor farm on Sec. 6, in Republican Township. By far the largest tract of land in Gill Township (Sec. 23, and 1-2 Sec. 15) was owned, nominally at least, by parties named Southworth. It is probable that they were not actual settlers and that the land eventually reverted to the company. The later proprietors of the Southworth section were C. M. Stone and J. M. McDougal.

On section 22, the E. 1-2 of the N. W. 1-4 was owned by Mr. Gillett. He married a Miss Eustace. On the S. W. 1-4, the W. 1-2 was owned by John Pett who came out in the winter of 1869-70. The E. 1-2 belonged to J. W. Sampson who was a member of the Alsop party. On the S. E. 1-4, the N. 1-2 was owned by Joseph Starling, the S. 1-2 by Charles Harris. Mr. Harris was a member of the Oxfordshire colony and the neatly painted house which he erected on his claim was a land-mark in the pioneer days.

The proprietors of the N. W. 1-4 of Sec. 26 were Messrs. Poppleton and Exley; the N. E. 1-4, Messrs. Gaston and Buckle. On the S. 1-2 of the section, the E. 1-2 of the S. W. 1-4 was owned by one of the Oxfordshire settlers named Cumber; the W. 1-2 was the property of James Clarke. John Chambers (of Co. Kent, England) owned the E. 1-2 of the S. E. 1-4. On section 28, three eighties were owned by members of the Seal family and one (E. 1-2 of N. E. 1-4) by Thos. Newell. Two "eighties" forming the eastern third of Sec. 21 were owned by Mr. Docking, and the S. 1-2 of section 4 belonged to members of the Haden family. The N. E. 1-4 of the same section was the property of Mr. Moutree. The W. 1-2 belonged to an American settler named Lake. Con-

cerning the remaining occupants of the township no definite information has been procured.

Concerning Mr. R. Hamilton of Athelstane Township (N. 1-2 of N. E. 1-4 of Sec. 26) the Plat-Book makes the following statement:

"One of the foremost men in this township was R. Hamilton, who formerly lived in Athelstane Ford, in Scotland. When the postoffice was established at his house he named it Athelstane; and, when the township was formed, it took its name from the postoffice. * * The postoffice was established in 1873."

VII.

Conclusion.

Our survey of the early history of the Wakefield colony closes with the year 1874. In that year Kansas was devastated by grasshoppers, and the settlers felt, not without reason, that the cup of their misfortunes was full. We shall give an account of the fate of the colony in general together with brief notices of the subsequent fortunes of the settlers.

The two chief drawbacks with which the colonists had to contend were the dry continental climate, so different from that of England, and the adverse economic conditions. In addition to these there were also the many hardships incident to pioneer life.

The change from an insular to a continental climate has often proved one of the severest tests, not only of colonial enterprise, but also of military endurance. One need scarcely mention the sufferings of the British soldiers during the Crimean War (Winter of 1854-5.) Life in the heart of a continent has always been full of surprises to those who were born and brought up in islands or projecting coastlands. Herodotus, who visited the shores of the Black Sea in the 5th century B. C., has thus described his impressions of the climate of southern Russia:

"All this country which I have been speaking of is subject to such a severe winter, that for eight months the frost is so intolerable, that if you pour water on the ground you will not make mud, but if you light a fire you will make mud."

The glowing accounts issued by immigration companies and the sharp practice often connected with real estate deals was one of the grievances of the colonists. The following incident is vouched for by a family well known among the English settlers: On landing in New York they were met by the local agent of the National Land Co. who endeavored to drive a bargain with them for property in the far west. Failing to effect the transaction he gave them a sealed letter to the Company agent at Chicago. En route one of the members of the family said to the head of the house: "Father, I wouldn't carry a letter from one unknown person to another with whom you are no better acquainted; why don't you find out what is in the letter?" The suggestion was acted upon and the contents of the letter were found to be as follows:

Dear N————————

S————————and family think of going to Kansas. Fix them and remember me. Yours, etc.,

(————————)

But pioneer life, notwithstanding its hardships, did not lack its humorous side. Old settlers still speak of a prospectus that represented steamboats ascending the Republican river. The following incident is also illustrative: One day a number of the colonists were standing in the Company's office at Wakefield. My father stood on one side of the room and near the corner on the opposite side stood a Mr. Vincent who was a man slightly taller than the average. Just then a party of new-comers drove up to the door. Mr. Vincent and my father turned and winked at each other as much as to say: Some more innocents have come to learn the hardships of prairie life.

The greatest drawback to the colony was found in the general economic conditions. The country had not recovered from the effects of the Civil War. (Money was scarce and commodities of all kinds expensive.)

Means of communication were very inadequate and the markets of St. Louis and Chicago were only on the threshold of their development. There was no local demand for agricultural products and the Kansas City market was easily glutted. The lavish expenditure of English capital in Clay, (Davis) Geary and Dickinson counties had no effect on the country at large. My father once said that during 1869-70, a quarter of a million of English money was spent in the district just mentioned where one couldn't have collected a million cents three years later. This estimate is confirmed by others.

It was, however, after the grasshopper-year that matters were seen in their severest guise. About that time my father described conditions as they then were through the columns of one of the West of England papers:

"Five years is certainly long enough to give a thing a trial. * * When I tell you that scores who went out west with capital and every advantage would be glad enough to occupy a labourer's cottage and eat a labourer's food in England, you will know that they have been grievously disappointed. It is quite true that land is very cheap and that meat can be had at almost a nominal price. * * * When lecturers talk about the cheapness of things, it would be well if they would also tell the cost of raising the crop mentioned and the average price paid to the producer. I see by one of the letters, copies of which were circulated by the lecturers, that beef can be bought at 1½ d. per lb. Where, then, can be the farmers' profit for raising cattle, and feeding them through the fearful winters, if they are afterwards disposed of at such prices? A good bullock should weigh 100 lbs. per quarter, or a total of 400 lbs., which at the price named, would amount to £2. 10 s. for the whole animal. If these things were considered over, it would be seen just where the shoe pinches; and that many years of toil, hardship and disappointment must be endured before the prospects presented can be realized. No one looking on can tell half of the real facts, and those who have gone through it all find words fail to express their full meaning."

Disappointment was not peculiar to the English colonists. An American settler, writing to the Courier Journal of Louisville, Ky., says: "This state is a fraud on a grand scale." His remarks apply both to the conditions then existing in Kansas and to the methods employed by colonizing agencies. His description is decidedly pessimistic:

"The people are destitute and there is no money. The women are half-clothed and the men are bare-footed on the streets."

The misfortunes of the sister colony at Victoria (Ellis Co.) were much greater than those of Wakefield. Mr. Grant died in the early days of the settlement and with his decease the moving spirit of the enterprise was gone.

"Misfortune followed misfortune. Thousands of stock died. The colonists were discouraged and moved away, abandoning their homes and lands. Their places were filled by a large party from southern Russia."

Mr. R. T. Bachelor, who visited Victoria in the winter of 1897-98, gives the following account of the church erected by the founder of the Victoria colony:

"Our first visit was to the beautiful little church erected by Mr. Grant, at his own expense, in the year 1876, and which was not completed when he died. The first time it was used was for his funeral service. A handsome marble tablet inside the building and over the entrance commemorates his death. He was buried just west of the church and his grave is surrounded by a neat fence which has been kept up and cared for by a few of his old friends who still cherish his memory. The church was practically abandoned for many years, as those who were interested were few and too much discouraged to keep up and maintain the services. Lightning struck the building and did much damage. The Russian children made the church a playground. The fine organ was damaged by wet and ill-use. The stained glass

windows were broken and desolation prevailed."

This state of desolation was not, however, suffered to continue permanently and, as Mr. Bachelor tells us: "Today the church appears as one of the most beautiful Episcopal churches for its size in the Diocese."

A few words may be added concerning subsequent fortunes of some of the settlers mentioned in the earlier sections of this narrative.

Rev. Richard Wake resided for some years in Topeka. He afterwards removed to Salt Lake City where he took active part in the State Temperance Movement. Mr. Alexander Maitland went to Seattle, in the State of Washington. E. M. Fulcher, who afterwards owned the Maitland farm on Sec. 12, Gill Township, went to South Africa, but later returned to this country and settled in San Francisco. Mr. T. P. Pettigrew, well known as the secretary of the Wakefield Agricultural and Literary Society, removed to Virginia and resided at or near Richmond. Rev. W. S. Crouch, in the early days proprietor of a timber claim on Sec. 30 in Republican Township, has been for a number of years pastor of the Congregational church at Maple Hill, Kan. William Allaway, at one time proprietor of the Fitzgibbon farm, removed to Clay Centre. John Brett also went to Clay Centre. He died there and his widow married a Mr. Bradbury. John Farrington Alsop, son of Wm. Alsop, Esqr., of Cain's Creek, left Wakefield for Denver, Col. He was never heard of again. Felix James Pitters, better known at Wakefield as Jim Pitters, enlisted in the United States Army and fell with Gen. Custer at the battle of Little Big Horn, June 25, 1876. The Castor brothers settled in Texas. Robert Castor subsequently removed to the Pacific Slope. His brother, James H. Castor, is now a prosperous cattle man at Zulu, Texas.

Many of those who left Wakefield in the early days went back to England. Among the number of ex-colonists were the following:

Rev. Joseph Binns, who came out on the steamship Nebraska in 1869, afterwards returned to England and became a presiding elder in the Midlands. John Deere, who came out on the same ship, went back to Great Britain, and became proprietor of an iron-monger's business (hardware store) near the Elephant and Castle (London.) During his subsequent residence in England, my father on one occasion met Mr. Deere on the platform of the railway station at Oxford. Mr. Laundy, the first proprietor of the Moutelle farm, (N. ½ of N. E. ¼ of Sec. 34 in Union township), was also one of those who returned to England. Another ex-colonist was James Marshall, brother of Mr. John P. Marshall (See Sec. 6.)

We have already noticed that Mr. Charles Ingram, one of the members of the executive committee of the Agricultural and Literary Society, also returned to England. His property in Gill Township, Sec. 3, was afterwards purchased by Mr. F. W. Cornell. Gilbert Jones, whose claim was the N. W. 1-4 of Sec. 11 in the same township, also returned to England, probably about the year 1874. His land seems to have reverted to the company. Uriah Handley (from Cambridgeshire) whose claim was the S. W. 1-4 of Sec. 27 in Exeter Township, afterwards resided near Bath, England, and engaged in the mining and manufacture of Fuller's earth. Another of the ex-colonists who went back to Great Britain was Mr. L. J. Millard (claim, S. W. 1-4 Sec. 13, Athelstane Township.) Some years later my father, during his stay in England, met Mr. Millard at Chippenham in North Wiltshire.

Among the Members of the Oxford-

shire colony who returned to their native land were Messrs. Gillett (E. 1-2, N. W. 1-4 Sec. 22, Gill Township), Charles Harris (S. 1-2 of S. E. 1-4), Cumber (E. 1-2 of S. W. 1-4 in Sec. 26), the Clinch Bros. and Mr. and Mrs. Jardine. Mr. Jardine was a son-in-law of James Eustace Esqr., and came out in the steamship "City of Washington" in April, 1870. He was afterwards connected with the firm of Huntley & Palmer, Biscuit Manufacturers, at Reading. Mr. Thomas Beldham informes me, on the authority of Frank Harris, who visited his old home some five years ago, that the Clinch Bros. have prospered since their return to the mother country. Duncan Clinch is now a well-to-do veterinary surgeon in London. The Buckle family remained at Wakefield for nearly twenty years and then removed to Alberta, British America.

The story of the Wakefield Colony is but a minor circumstance in the spread of the English-speaking race throughout the world. It has, however, for those who took part in it, the same interest which a private soldier's recollections have for the battles in which he fought.

In many ways the experiences of the English colonists of 1869-70 remind one of the first settlements in Virginia and New England. Unlike the American settlers, the English had no well-defined idea of pioneer life. They did not realize the greatness of the task that was before them.

People cannot change their abodes, pass from an island to a continent, * from an ancient community to a new colony, * without changing their ideas and habits and ways of thinking, nay, without somewhat modifying in the course of a few generations their physical type."

The interest which the story of Wakefield possesses is not merely local in character. It is an illustration, at first hand, of the movements and the changes that are going on everywhere in the English-speaking world.

Appendix I.

REV. WILLIAM TODD AND THE MADURA MISSION.

Madura, India, was from very early times one of the chief seats of Hindoo paganism. Rev. Wm. Todd began work there as a missionary of the American Board in July, 1834. The mission celebrated its jubilee in 1884, when a small volume was published giving the history of the mission. There are now three native Protestant churches in the city (Madura Station, West Gate, Madura; and East Madura.) The statistics given in 1884 for the entire district were: "Stations, eleven; Churches, thirty-five; Communicants, 2,817." In 1901 the mission reckoned 4,911 church members and 17,276 adherents.

The city of Madura dates from about 500 B. C. From that period until 1064 A. D. it was the seat of the Pandian kings. Megasthenes (about 300 B. C.) makes mention of the city and one of its kings sent an embassy to Augustus Caesar. After having been conquered by the Mohammedans (Malik Kafur, 1310 A. D.) the native kingdom was restored in 1559 by Vivanatha. The greatest of his descendants, Tirumala Nayakka (1623-1659), restored and beautified the great temple and built a magnificent palace. The kingdom came under British control in 1758 and was annexed in 1801.

The Madura District is a veritable stronghold of Hinduism. From time immemorial Madura has been the religious capital of the southern extremity of India. Here is the temple of the great goddess Meenatchi, the presiding deity of the city. "This temple covers 14½ acres, and is in size the third and in magnificence and upkeep the first temple in all India, and has hardly its equal anywhere among the ethnic religions. A part of the temple is given up to the worship of Siva who, under the name of Sockalingam is the consort of Meenatchi. Meenatchi was originally an ancient queen of the Madura country, and on her death became the presiding demonness of the devil-worship of the district, later when the Brahmans came to Southern India the new cult absorbed the old by marrying Meenatchi to Siva and giving her a place in the Hindu Pantheon."—Dr. Jones.

Appendix II.

THE MARSHALL MAPS.

(1) The First Map.

The first map is entitled a "Map of Junction City, Kansas, and adjacent territory." It was published by the Davis County Emigration(sic) Society, of which S. M. Strickler was president and A. C. Pierce secretary. The reverse side of the map gives a prospectus of the advantages of Junction City and the surrounding district.

The map shows the proposed course of the Republican Valley Railroad as originally planned, and also a proposed line to Omaha running north by way of Five Mile Creek. Other points of interest are, (1) southeastern Clay Co. including the Wakefield neighborhood, (2) the military reservation of Fort Riley, and (3) the hilly country south of the Kansas River, extending from Lyons Creek to Humboldt Creek. The last-named district has been identified with the northern boundary of Quivira invaded by the Spanish conquerer Coronado in 1541. The military reservation of Fort Riley contains the ruins of Pawnee, including the capital building in which the territorial legislature met on July 2, 1855. The map extends as far west as the section on which St. John's church stands (Township 10 S., range 3 E.) The creek flowing parallel to the east bank of the Republican appears to be wrongfully named. It is unquestionably the stream now known as Timber Creek.

(2) The Second Map.

The second map owes its origin to matters of practical interest. When the settlers came the land was one continuous expanse of rolling prairie broken only by the timber that skirted the banks of the larger creeks. There were no fences or boundaries and no striking peculiarities of surface. A section seemed to owe its very identity to the presence of settlers upon it. In view of this practical difficulty Mr. J. P. Marshall made an outline chart of the township in which his claim was situated and from time to time entered the names of those who settled upon it. The map was drawn with paper and ink upon a sheet of ruled notepaper and measures 25.3x15.3 cm., or, with the margin 25.5x19.8 cm. It is much yellowed with age. Although the map was drawn in 1874, supplementary entries were occasionally made during the three or four following years.

A few explanatory remarks may be added in this connection:

(1) The shaded portions of the map represent claims purchased of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company. This excludes Homesteads, technically so-called, as well as the farms of the earlier American settlers in the Quimby Creek Valley.

(2) The dotted outline represents the boundary of the Golden Ridge School District.

(3) The name (scarcely legible) on the S. E. ¼ of Sec. 17, T. 10, range 4 East, is probably to be read "Purinton." The earliest entry on the N. ½ of the S. W. ¼ of Sec. 10, in Gill township, may possibly be read "Winterbourne."

(4) With regard to Sec. 15 (Gill Township) the evidence of the Marshall map has been called in question. The most likely solution is that which has been offered in the sixth section of this history. It is an explanation which must be accepted in the case of sections 11 and 31 in the same township. Here land was purchased by settlers that afterwards unquestionably reverted to the corportion to which it originally belonged.

A letter of recent date from Mr. Marshall contains so much interesting matter that I venture to cite it here although a brief extract has been inserted in the body of the history:

Wakefield, Sept. 31, '06.

My Dear Friend:

I fully appreciate your desire to sift out the truth and "hold fast that which is good." Men's memories become somewhat hazy as to matters occurring over one-third of a century ago, and even written records may be in error as boundaries were little known and less understood during the first few years of settlement.

With regard to the Jacobus land, I find that the first settler on that land was George Purinton, who lived on it (but I do not remember any house or remains of one.) He sold it to Mr. Jacobus, who was a Congregational minister in Junction City—an old man, I believe. A. Gaston bought it from him or his assigns. The other piece of the A. Gaston place was first settled by H. W. Brown who sold it to Chas. Purinton and by whom it was sold to Gaston.

Mr. Quimby settled on the quarter section of the place known as his. The other 240 acres he got from his brother Frank and a man named Robinson, both of whom went as soldiers during the Civil War and never returned.

The Clinch boys brought with them Henry Buckle and as they were not of age, or for some other reason, perhaps, he took up the homestead on which they all lived for several years. Henry Buckle died suddenly while driving cattle near Wamego, I think, and the right of homestead passed to his father, who came out with the remainder of the family. Mr. Clinch then came out and moved the stock to the place now owned by Richardson, joining Ed Southwick's on the north. Mr. Grant of London—the founder of the Victoria colony—bought most of the good stock.

* * *

The "80" now owned by John Young was first settled by a man from Illinois who built a sod house on the S. E. corner, Jason Withers, I think, got it for a tree claim, and then my brother Arthur had it. When he left I took it, selling it to the Youngs shortly after. Jason Withers married Miss Cowdery and lived on the E. 1-2 of S. W. 1-4, Sec. 12.

* * *

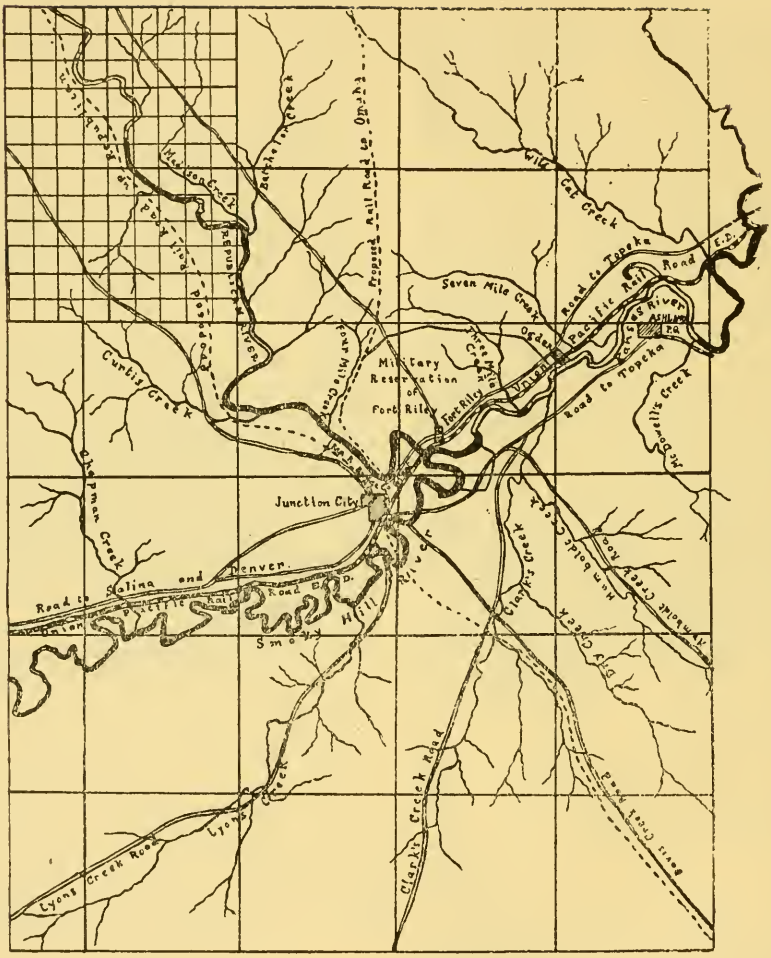
The Buckle on Sec. 26 was E. T. Buckle, who lived there before his marriage to Miss Young after he traded places with James Young.

I enclose some slips covering some of the discussed points and I think they will agree with my earlier map except that some of the lines may be run east and west instead of north and south. In the early days with no roads or fences it was difficult to tell which way the land lay.

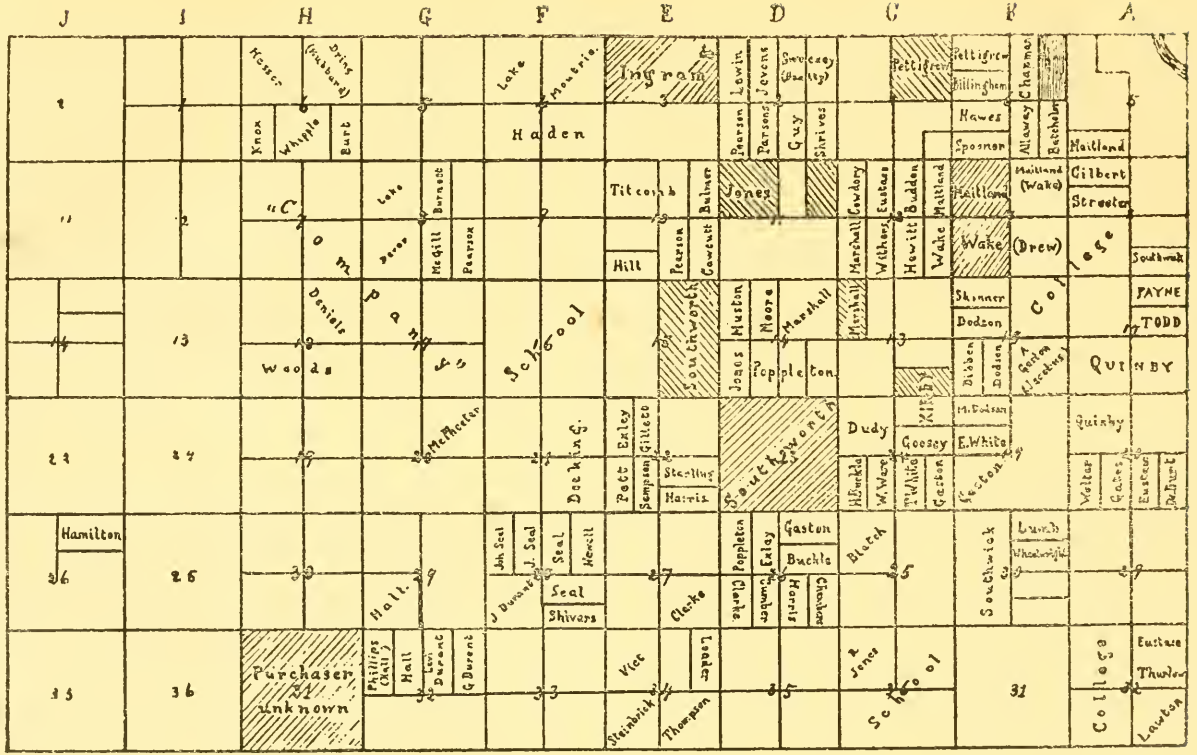
Hoping that these notes may be of use to you, I am,

Yours very truly,

JOHN P. MARSHALL.



The First Marshall Map.
(1868)



Reference Map

based upon

The Second Marshall Map.

Appendix III.

In constructing the chronological table I have selected chiefly those events that have a merely local character, or else such as connect the history of the Junction City district with the affairs of the state at large.

(a) Indian Trails.

From very early times the Indian tribes carried on a primitive sort of commerce by means of trails or track ways. At least two such trails intersected Kansas diagonally. One appears to have passed up the north side of the Kansas river and then to have crossed the watershed from some point below Ellsworth to the great bend of the Arkansas. Another lead from the head waters of the Osage and the Neosho, crossing the trail previously mentioned near Great Bend and then passing up the Arkansas to the mountains. The trail was continued by way of the Rio de los Animas and the Raton Pass to the valley of the Rio Grand del Norte. These routes connected the Mississippi valley with New Mexico.

(b) Harahey and Quivira.

In the sixteenth century the country now known as Kansas was included in two regions called Harahey and Quivira. Harahey was the territory of the Pawnee Indians. It embraced western Kansas but extended far beyond the borders of the state. Quivira lay for the most part between the Kansas and the Arkansas rivers. It was intersected by the trails previously mentioned. When Coronado conquered the settled races of New Mexico in 1541, the natives lured him into the open plains of the interior, hoping thus to compass his destruction. On the march to Quivira the Spanish invaders crossed the state diagonally and seemed to have reached the Kansas river somewhere within the limits of the Junction City district.

In the seventeenth century a band of the New Mexican natives revolted from the Spaniards and founded a settlement in Quivira. It was known to the Spaniards as Cuartelejo. In recent years the site has been identified and excavated.

(c) Kansas a Border Land.

Some centuries before the Columbian discovery the Siouan Indians migrated westward from the region of the Appalachian mountains. At the time of the Spanish Conquest they had spread over all the more open regions of the Mississippi and the Missouri valleys. To this race belonged the Dakotas on the North, and the Omahas, Kansas, and Wazhazhas (Osages) on the South. As the Siouan tribes pressed up the river valleys west of the Missouri they came in conflict with the warlike Pawnees and Wichitas.

By the seventeenth century Kansas had already become the border land of the Siouan and Caddoan races. Each of the important rivers, the Kansas, the Osage and the Arkansas, was the highway of an invading tribe. The Kansas tribe eventually occupied the entire Kaw valley. It will thus be seen that the state owes its name to invaders from Missouri. On Vaugondy's map (1750) the eastern part of the state already appears as Pays des Cansees "land of the Kansas (Indians)." The Pawnees still retained possession of the central and western parts of Kansas and Nebraska. Their villages were on the Platte and Republican valleys.

(d) Kansas the Frontier Between the Possessions of France and Spain, 1705-1803.

In the first quarter of the eighteenth century Kansas became the borderland between the colonial empires of France and Spain. The French made their first expedition to the mouth of the Kansas river in 1705.

On Sept. 27, 1719, M. Dutisne, a French officer, took formal possession of the Pawnee country in the name of the king of France. The following year the Spaniards attempted to found a colony on the banks of the Missouri, but were massacred by the Indians.

In 1722-3 Fort Orleans, Mo., was founded by the French on an island near the mouth of the Osage river. The commandant, M. de Bourgmont, explored Kansas during the following year. "In 1725," says Spring, "Fort Orleans was captured by Kansas savages and the garrison slaughtered.

Details are wholly unknown. * The massacre effectually blighted the enthusiasm of the Frenchman for exploration in Kansas.

(e) Kansas Comes Under the Sovereignity of the United States.

Kansas was included in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, and was explored by Lieut. Z. M. Pike in 1806. On Sept. 29th of that year Pike caused the Spanish flag to be lowered and the United States flag to be raised at Pawnee Republic (a village of the Pawnee Indians from which the Republican river derives its name.) This was 265 years after the invasion of Coronado and 81 years after the destruction of Fort Orleans.

In 1831-2 the United States began to remove the Indians of the Old Northwest to reservations in Kansas. In 1843, the Wyandottes came from Ohio and settled in eastern Kansas. They remained in the state about twelve years (1843-1855.)

Kansas was opened for settlement on May 30, 1854, and after seven years of chequered territorial history became a state in 1861.

Chronological Table.

1854, March 30, The Kansas-Nebraska bill.
Oct. 7, Andrew H. Reeder, first governor of the territory of Kansas, arrives at Leavenworth.
1855, July 2-6, Session of the territorial legislature at Pawnee. (Ruins of the Capitol to be seen in the military reservation at Ft. Riley.)
1856, (April), Moses, William and Jeremiah Youngkens and John King settle on Timber Creek, (Grant Township.)
1857, (Spring), Messrs. Quinby and Payne settle in Republican Township.
1858, (May), Rev. Wm. Todd (Republican Township.)
Dec. 2, Edwin Youngkens born.
1859, House on the Wakefield Townsite built by James Gilbert.
1860, July 25, Geo. Kirby born (first child of American parentage in Gill Township.)
1861, Jan. 30, Kansas admitted to the Union.
1868, July 4, Madura school house opened.
Sept. 17, Battle of Arickaree, decisive overthrow of the Plains Indians
(Nov.), James H. Harvey, governor of Kansas. (Re-elected, 1870.)
1869, July 12, Messrs. Pierce and Wake inspect the land between Chapman Creek and Wakefield.
Aug. 12, H. S. Walter and P. Gillies settle in Republican Township.
Aug. 21, John Wormald, Alexander Maitland, R. T. Batchelor and others arrive in Junction City.
The pioneer party left England Aug. 3rd, landed in New York on the 15th, reaches Junction City the 21st.
Aug. 25, Preliminary organization of the Kansas Land and Emigration Company, ("Incorporated Aug. 25, 1869").
Aug. 26, The townsite of Wakefield laid out by Richard Wake, John Wormald, Alexander Maitland and Col. Loomis.
Sept. 15, The "Nebraska party" sails from Liverpool, lands in New York on the 29th and arrives in Junction City Oct. 6th.
Oct. 12, Meeting of the Stockholders at the Hale House, Junction City.
1870, Jan. 16, A severe Blizzard occasions much suffering.
April 6, The Alsop party sailed from Liverpool. On the 25th they are met at Junction City by Rev. Richard Wake.
May 8, Methodist Episcopal Church organized.
May 30, The Wakefield Ferry & Bridge Co. incorporated.
(Summer) Drought and crop failure.
1871, Jan. 25-Mar. 8, Sessions of the Wakefield Agricultural and Literary Society recorded in the Wakefield Herald, Vol. I, No. 3.
(Spring) Organization of the monthly market.
April 5, The Sparrowhawk party leaves England.
1872, Thomas A. Osborn, governor of Kansas, (re-elected, 1874.)
1874, Kansas devastated by grasshoppers.
First vestry meeting (Oct. 14th) of the Episcopal church.
1876, April, St. John's church dedicated
June 25, Battle of Little Big Horn. Felix James Pitters, a Wakefield colonist, among the slain.

LB S '09

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